

FROM THE COMMITTEE ON MODEL CIVIL JURY INSTRUCTIONS

The Committee solicits comment on the following proposal by July 15, 2019. Comments may be sent in writing to Timothy J. Raubinger, Reporter, Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions, Michigan Hall of Justice, P.O. Box 30052, Lansing, MI 48909-7604, or electronically to MCJI@courts.mi.gov.

PROPOSED

[NEW] M Civ JI __. __ Support Persons or Animals

You [are about to hear / have heard] testimony from a witness who I [will allow / have allowed] to be accompanied by a support [person / animal]. You should disregard the support [person / animal]'s presence and decide the case based solely on the evidence presented. You should not consider the witness's testimony to be any more or less credible because of the [person / animal]'s presence. You must not allow the use of a support [person / animal] to influence your decision in any way.

The Michigan Supreme Court has delegated to the Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions the authority to propose and adopt Model Civil Jury Instructions. MCR 2.512(D). In drafting Model Civil Jury Instructions, it is not the committee's function to create new law or anticipate rulings of the Michigan Supreme Court or Court of Appeals on substantive law. The committee's responsibility is to produce instructions that are supported by existing law.

The members of the Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions are:

Chair: Hon. Mark T. Boonstra

Reporter: Timothy J. Raubinger

Members: Benjamin J. Aloia; Robert L. Avers; Hilary A. Ballentine; Hon. Jane M. Beckering; Mark R. Bendure; Hon. James N. Erhart; Hon. Kathleen A. Feeney; Gary N. Felty, Jr.; William B. Forrest, III; Hon. Michael F. Gadola; Donald J. Gasiorek; James F. Hewson; Hon. Michael L. Jaconette; Amy M. Johnston; C. Thomas Ludden; Daniel J. Schulte; Judith A. Susskind; Hon. Donald A. Teeple; Thomas Van Dusen; Thomas W. Waun.